FBIS DAILY REPORT

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PRESIDENT ROBERTO VIOLA SUFFERS HEART ATTACK

NC192255 Paris AFP in English 2248 GMT 19 Nov 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Nov (AFP) -- Argentine President General Roberto Viola suffered a heart attack today and will have to stop his activities for at least a month, official sources said here. The president, who has been in office only since last March 29, is to be admitted to the Buenos Aires Military Hospital in the next few hours, the sources added. The president's duties will be taken over temporarily by the interior minister, General Horacio Liendo.

Government Communique

PY192348 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2310 GMT 19 Nov 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Nov (NA) -- At 2000 Government House released the following communique:

His excellency the president of the nation, Lt Gen Roberto Eduardo Viola, continues with his restricted activity, receiving his immediate advisers at the presidential residence of Olivos. A meeting is scheduled for the next few minutes between the president of the nation and Interior Minister Horacio Tomas Liendo, and then with Gen Santiago Luis Martella, secretary general of the presidency.

Medical Checkup

PY200047 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0018 GMT 20 Nov 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Nov (NA) -- Political sources tonight indicated that only after the medical checkup which President Viola will undergo on Monday at the military hospital will it be considered whether he will delegate his duties to the interior minister in keeping with the provisions in effect. These sources expressed their belief that this political-institutional option will be discussed by the military junta, whose members will by then have the new medical report on the president's health.

There were reports yesterday that the three commanders of the armed forces branches had already informally discussed the options available in case the health of the president forced him to reduce his activities. It has been learned from other official sources that this afternoon General Viola underwent a checkup by a medical team made up of two civilian heart specialists. The report from this team will be added to that of the doctors of the military hospital who have been treating the president since his hypertension crisis. It was reported tonight that a new report would be prepared, based on the results of the latest checkup. Meanwhile, Interior Minister Gen Horacio Liendo, Presidential Secretary Gen Santiago Luis Martella and Public Information Secretary Gen Raul J. Ortiz were at the Olivos residence.

Armed Forces Meeting

PY192335 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2156 GMT 19 Nov 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Nov (NA) -- Military sources have revealed that developments in the condition of President Roberto Viola, who has had to cancel scheduled meetings for the second day in a row, were the central subject of today's meetings of high-ranking officers of the three branches of the armed forces. The commanding officers of the army and the navy today met separately amid expectations and rumors of possible consequences of the president's illness, while the commander in chief of the air force held a meeting of all lieutenant colonels, colonels and majors stationed in this capital. With regard to the air force, a brief official communique indicated that the meeting was held to "discuss national and institutional affairs." The longest of all the meetings was that the of army major generals, which took all day.

The worsening of the chief of state's health, which became known last night when it was reported that he had been forced to cancel all scheduled official activities, on doctor's orders, was the main subject for analyses and briefings at these military meetings, military sources said. The meeting of naval commanding officers began at 0900 today at the Libertad Building, headquarters of the navy commander in chief, and was presided over by Navy Commander in Chief Adm Jorge Anaya. This meeting was attended by all vice and rear admirals on active duty in the country. Admiral Anaya briefed them on the various aspects of the current status of the process of national reorganization, both at the political and economic levels. The meeting ended at 1145 and it was reported that it had "analyzed matters related to the status of the nation and of the navy."

Almost simultaneously, at the film-viewing hall of the Condor Building, the commander in chief of the air force, Gen Omar Graffigna, met with all majors, lieutenant colonels and colonels stationed in this capital numbering close to 300 officers. In this case the official information released also briefly stated that "national and institutional affairs had been discussed."

The commanding echelon of the army began its meeting at the Libertador Building at 0900, Army Commander in Chief Gen Leopoldo Galtieri presiding. It was attended by major generals on active duty who yesterday participated in the meeting of the senior promotions board for high-ranking officers. As is customary for these meetings of high-ranking army officers, each of the corps commanders reported on the status of his jurisdiction.

This was done by the commanders of the I, II, III and V corps stationed in Palermo, Rosario, Cordoba and Bahia Blanca -- Generals Antonio Domingo Bussi, Juan Carlos Trimarco, Cristino Nicolaides and Jose Rogelio Villareal respectively. They were followed by Maj Gen Reynaldo Bigone, commander of military institutes with headquarters in Campo de Mayo.

The meeting went on during lunch, which the generals shared with General Galtieri, who later made a detailed report on the development of the national reorganization process and his recent trip to the United States where he participated in the meeting of American army commanders in chief.

The commander in chief of the army also reported to the high-ranking commanding officers on President Viola's state of health, a report to which he added his personal impression, since apparently he visited Viola at the beginning of the week at the Olivos residence and talked with him for almost 2 hours.

Our sources indicated that the health of President Viola and its possible consequences took up most of the time at the meetings of the three branches of the armed forces. The officers apparently also discussed every possibility which could crop up in the event Viola was forced to extend his leave from official activities, even though temporary absence and demise of the president [acefalia] are specifically provided for by the statutes and the other documents of the process of national reorganization.

The subject of Viola's health was also analyzed in depth at the 5-hour meeting which the military junta held yesterday. Today, the commanders in chief of each of the branches made a detailed report to their high-ranking officers. While the meeting of the army commanding echelon was going on, it was reported that President Viola would be unable to hold the meetings this afternoon which he had already postponed yesterday.

CAMILION REJECTS 'PRESSURES' IN BEAGLE ISSUE

PY191510 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1111 GMT 19 Nov 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Nov (NA) -- On being questioned about the alleged conciliatory "pressure" exercized by the United States and other Western countries, Foreign Minister Oscar Camilion anticipated that the Argentine Government will not accept "any interference by third countries in the border dispute with Chile." Upon his arrival at Ezeiza Airport last night after an official visit to Peru, Camilion remarked that "it would be really unacceptable for third countries to interfere in a problem of this nature."

However, he asserted that "I have not been informed of any interference whatsoever and, if it should take place, we will not accept it." He also considered that it would be a "distortion" to interpret the interest shown by third countries in this issue as any sort of interference.

In addition to Peru, Camilion had traveled to Bolivia where he attended the meeting of the River Plate Basin countries, which, as he said, was "a transition from what we might call the political stage to the technical stage."

As to his trip to Lima, Camilion stated that its object had been that of "resuming political contacts" with Peru, and of analizing "the status of bilateral relations and of the regional and overall situation."

ARMED FORCES TO REDUCE NUMBER OF HIGHER RANKS

PY191620 Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 11 Nov 81 p 14

[Excerpt] The reform of the military personnel law, aimed at permitting those who maintain their full capacity and are capable of rendering optimum service to remain on active duty longer, and which was promulgated by the executive branch recently according to a directive given by the military junta, might have its first concrete consequences this year among the higher echelons of the army, navy and air force.

It has been learned that the subject was studied during one of the last closed meetings held by the military junta and that the discussion reportedly led to an agreement to order a substantial reduction among the highest ranks, so that a larger number of officers would go into retirement than those who will be promoted.

Another measure aimed at achieving the goals through the modification of the above-mentioned law would be the 1-year postponement of some promotions which are under consideration.

PCA SUPPORTS CUBAN REVOLUTION IN DOCUMENT

FL192130 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2102 GMT 19 Nov 81

[Text] The Communist Party of Argentina [PCA] has called for the defense of the Cuban people's right to consolidate a new socialist society. The document, entitled "For an Independent Policy," was issued in Buenos Aires. The PCA also called for peace in America and the world and for respect for the Nicaraguan people's right to build a new life. It noted that, as in time of old, the White House proclaims the colonialist "big stick" policy for Central American and the Caribbean and plots dangerous adventures against El Salvador, Nicaragua and Cuba.

The PCA disclosed that the new policy against Central America and the Caribbean was outlined in a memorandum known as the Santa Fe document prepared for the U.S. President by a group of advisers prior to his inauguration.

LATEST REPORT: LIENDO REPORTEDLY ACTING PRESIDENT

PY201208 Formosa Radio Nacional in Spanish 1204 GMT 20 Nov 81

[Text] Interior Minister Horacio Tomas Liendo will temporarily replace President Roberto Viola.

MINERS ILLEGAL STRIKE CONTINUES TO EXPAND

PY180229 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 18 Nov 81

[Excerpts' During today's cabinet meeting Labor Minister Romulo Mercado said that the government will act with a firm hand if there is any political agitation or if there are any nonlabor issues in the present labor conflict in the Huanuni mines.

[Begin unidentified voice recording] Moreover, the mines and labor ministers gave a detailed briefing on negotiations being carried out on the COMIBOL [Mining Corporation of Bolivia] and Labor Ministry level. [end recording]

The presidential press secretary spoke with journalists minutes after the cabinet meeting had ended and noted that after the briefing on the Huanuni mines conflict: [Begin recording] The interior minister also reasserted that the government maintains a policy of dialogue and that it is hoped that workers will also do the same so that we may be able to achieve a satisfactory solution. The interior minister noted, moreover, that the government is making all efforts to achieve a favorable solution but he has noted that the government will act with a firm hand if there is any political agitation or if nonlabor issues complicate this problem since one of its duties is to maintain peace and order in the nation. [end recording]

For his part the labor minister has declared the strike called by the Huanuni miners illegal. He added that consequently, COMIBOL, which is in charge of this mining district, will not pay workers for the days that they are on strike. Mercado added that in the negotiations labor leaders have been told that the enterprise will not accept any demands on (?resumption of union activity) and that the salary issue falls under the government economic plans.

Interior Minister's Statement

PY161300 Paris AFP in Spanish 1455 GMT 14 Nov 81

[Text] La Paz, 14 Nov (AFP) -- Interior Minister Col Romulo Mercado Garnica linked the sitdown strike begun by the mine workers of Huanuni, 220 km south of this capital, with a call for subversion issued by former President Hernan Siles Zuazo. Mercado pointed out that the Huanuni protest has no social or labor objectives, but that it is connected with a subversive movement orchestrated by well-known extremists and pseudoleader agitators.

In their petition the mine workers requested authorization for labor union activities and for an increase in wages. They also voiced their opposition to the announced devaluation and to the intention to transfer state-owned enterprises to the private sector and to the attempt to transform the national smelting enterprise into a mixed corporation.

Siles Zuazo, had demanded that the country be put under a constitution immediately, thus firmly opposing the 3-year transition program to democracy proposed by Bolivian President Gen Celso Torrelio Villa.

Miners Extend Strike

PY161425 Paris AFP in Spanish 1458 GMT 15 Nov 81

[Text] La Paz, 15 Nov (AFP) -- It was disclosed here today that the workers of the Huanuni mining district, 220 km south of this capital, decided to extend by 48 hours their sit-down strike started last week demanding the authorization of labor union activities. According to the Catholic daily, PRESENCIA, the workers denied that their movement is linked with leftist subversive movements since, according to their statements, they are only interested in defending their labor union rights and natural resources which could be denationalized.

Government Seeks Understanding

PY170236 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 17 Nov 81

[Text] A high-ranking government commission has begun talks with Huanuni miners seeking to overcome the conflict which erupted last Thursday. The purpose of this commission is to carry out open and frank talks with the miners, aimed at finding feasible solutions for the problems which they have brought to our attention, the government officials have said.

The general Press and Information Secretariat has reported that the miners have begun their 5th day of strike despite the government's announcing its desire to find solutions to the conflict. The Information Secretariat added that Interior Minister Col Romulo Mercado Garnica has described the stoppage as political and connected it with subversive activities which have been taking place recently.

Government sources indicated that the best way to resolve the problems which are plaguing the country is through dialogue, since the government has not intention of applying repressive measures against political agitators encysted in the labor sector. Rather the government seeks rapprochement and understanding with the workers.

Miners Ready to Talk

PY200015 Paris AFP in Spanish 1255 GMT 19 Nov 81

[Text] La Paz, 19 Nov (AFP) -- The striking workers of Huanuni mining district today reiterated their willingness to hold talks with the government to resolve the conflict. However, they refuted reports that an official negotiation delegation had arrived in the area. The strike, which has been going on for 8 days now, is disrupting the activities of this mining district, 200 km east of La Paz. The miners have sent telegrams to the chief of state, to the labor minister and to COMIBOL [Mining Corporation of Bolivia] denouncing their situation and reiterating their request for an official commission with decisionmaking powers to arrive at a solution.

Miners Arrested

PY200011 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1508 GMT 19 Nov

[Text] La Paz, 19 Nov (TELAM) -- According to information received here, despite the intervention of National Guardsmen (police) in the mining district of Huanuni, 220 km east of La Paz, the strike of mineworkers demanding the recognition of their unions continues here today. The strike by Huanuni mineworkers was joined yesterday by the workers of Catavi, Siglo Veinte and San Jose districts, the most important ones among state-controlled mining enterprises. The strikers are now also asking for the freedom of more than 15 workers and leaders who were arrested yesterday during the police takeover of Huanuni.

The decision to continue the Huanuni strike was reached at a meeting after the police occupied the district. The meeting also discussed the possibility of staging a hunger strike. Reports from mining districts received here today indicated that mining leaders Walter Veizaga Pimentel and Felipe Vasquez Condori, and the workers Jose Vasquez Condori Pablo Ferrer Vidal, Roberto Jimenez, Efrain Teran, Damian Siles, Fortunato Caceres, Ramiro Alcala Quispe, Vito Gonzalez, N. Quiroz, C. Ricardo Pardo, Octavio Huayhua, Lucio Soria Altamirano and other as yet unidentified workers have been arrested.

The supporting strike of the Siglo Veinte miners is, for the time being, only for 48 hours.

According to the Bolivian interior minister, the police takeover of Huanuni district has taken place to guarantee peace and order. He made it clear that no clashes had taken place but admitted that a few activists have been arrested.

COMIBOL Direct Talks

PY200016 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 19 Nov 81

[Text] Engineer (Armando de Urdiosis), general manager of the Mining Corporation of Bolivia [COMIBOL], began direct talks today with the Huanuni mineworkers. He left for Huanuni early this morning seeking to overcome the stoppage of activities decided on Thursday of last week. Just before leaving for Huanuni, (de Urdiosis) expressed confidence in the task he is to carry out in that district, namely, to persuade the mineworkers through a direct dialogue to return to their jobs. I am convinced that most of the COMIBOL mineworkers are aware of their responsibility as good and hard-working citizens, and we are concerned over their dignity, he said. We as executive officials, he stated, and the workers as good Bolivians must make the maximum efforts for the tranquillity of the country.

Army Controls Huanuni

PY182030 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2005 GMT 18 Nov 81

[Text] La Paz, 18 Nov (TELAM) -- Bolivian Interior Minister Col Romulo Mercado Garnica reported this afternoon that national security guards and troops of the army 2d division, which is stationed in Oruro, have taken control of the Huanuni mining district. The Huanuni miners have been on strike since last Thursday. During a press conference this afternoon in his office, the interior minister noted that this decision was taken to guarantee the security of miners and their families so that they can return to work. According to the interior minister, there were no clashes during the military occupation of this important mining district which falls under the jurisdiction of COMIBOL [Mining Corporation of Bolivia].

Interior Minister on Troops

PY191519 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 19 Nov 81

[Excerpts] Interior Minister Romulo Mercado Garnica has warned that there is an open subversive political plan in the country encouraged from abroad. He reported that well-known activists have infiltrated different sectors of national activity. They are carrying out foreign plans, trying to create an environment of subversion to create instability in the government of the armed forces. The minister said during a press conference that due to the miners' intransigent position the government ordered the entrance of National Guard troops into the Huanuni mining district where mineworkers have been on strike for several days. He said that the important thing is to preserve peace and order, particularly the security of the mining families.

[Begin Mercado recording] These pseudoleaders were creating an environment of intimidation in the mining families. They created this environment of intimidation to a point of subjecting them to a psychological pressure with the explosion of dynamite to get the mining families and the mineworkers in particular from entering their sources of work. [end recording]

The minister also reported that special picket lines were formed to prevent workers from carrying out their activities and to force them to attend clandestine assemblies. He said that the government is convinced that the workers want to return to work to prevent hurting the country. Romulo Mercado then referred to the operation carried out by troops of the National Guard in coordination with other units of the armed forces.

[Begin Mercado recording] The population of Huanuni should not feel threatened by the presence of these troops because they have gone there with clear and precise instructions to provide security to the mining families. [end recording]

He also explained that the government has not discarded dialogue with the mineworkers. He made a series of considerations regarding production and the economic damage to the country created by the strike in this mining district.

[Begin Mercado recording] We, as representatives of the government, have the obligation to ensure, above all things, that labor activities develop with absolute normality in the country.

I reiterate that the government of the armed forces has been forced to make this decision but, of course, without discarding dialogue, that is, conversations with the mineworkers themselves. [end recording]

He categorically said that the government does not accept meeting with pseudoleaders because they do not have any programs to benefit labor, they are instead involved in their purely political plans.

STATE TO RETAIN CONTROL OF STRATEGIC INDUSTRIES

PY191616 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1651 GMT 18 Nov 81

[Excerpts] La Paz, 18 Nov (LATIN-REUTER) -- The Bolivian Government has confirmed that the state will maintain control over enterprises and industries considered strategic. It has also announced that the country's entire communications system will be taken over by the state as of 1 January.

Jaime Humerez, information minister of the presidency, said that the government...categorically reasserts its firm intention of defending the national interests of the country. He added that natural resources and strategic industries will always remain in the hands of the state.

Minister Jaime Humerez announced that country's entire communications system will be exclusively subordinate to the National Telecommunications Company (ENTEL) as of 1 January and that the latter's contract with the British Cables West Coast company will be terminated. Cables West Coast has operated the international communications since the 1940's and had proposed the installation of modern systems in remote areas of Bolivian territory.

FINANCE MINISTER ADMITS ACUTE INFLATION

PY180323 Paris AFP in Spanish 1935 GMT 13 Nov 81

[Text] La Paz, 13 Nov (AFP) -- Bolivian Finance Minister Col Javier Alcoreza Melgarejo here today admitted there is an acute inflationary process and that the prices of staples are at the level of the U.S. dollar exchange rate on the parallel market. In this regard, it has been pointed out that while the official exchange rate of the U.S. dollar is 25 Bolivian pesos per dollar, the parallel market exchange rate has been 33 pesos and 38 pesos recently. Alcoreza Melgarejo admitted that this situation will continue until the dollar isofficially allowed to float free, this may happen when the change [as received] of the national currency is decreed.

MNRI SCORES ARMED FORCES ECONOMIC PLAN, REGIME

PY132240 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1745 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Text] La Paz, 12 Nov (TELAM) -- Herman Siles Zuazo, the former Bolivian president and national leader of the National Revolutionary Movement of the Left (MNRI), issued a statement today in which he notes that the so-called 3-year armed forces government plan and the proposal made by private businessmen to impose a new economic model based on the denationalization of the main government-owned companies only shows that the military are trying to perpetuate their power in the country and to exercise complete control over the national economy. The statement entitled "The People Have Not Resigned Their Rights" is published as an open letter.

The statement notes that the proposal made by both the government and the national business sector to denationalize government-owned enterprises clearly shows that there is an aggressive plan enforced at all levels by multinational companies to take hold of Bolivia's natural resources in view of the weak institutional structures, the corruption and lack of ability of military regimes and the greed at the intermediate national levels, which levels are always willing to sell the fatherland for a few crumbs of bread. Further on the communique indicates that in the opinion of the MNRI, the general crisis which currently engulfs the nation has taken place precisely because the revolutionary meaning of the process launched in 1952 has been distorted and that this distortion has increased every time power has been seized by purported innovators.

That is, military officers backed up by civilians who have always been only too willing to give their unconditional support to de facto government and by the rebuilt clique which has always been unanimously in favor of eradicating the National Revolutionary Movement [MNR] from the country.

The extensive statement notes that while citizens' rights are still being trampled on, the enforcement of the new economic plan will result in a complete stagnation of the productive sector, an increase in inflation and the subjecting of the foreign debt to even more harmful conditions.

The statement also notes that the present leader of the regime that assumed power on 18 July 1980 has no one to hold a dialogue with since the genuine representatives of the people have been obstructed from exercising their constitutional rights. It adds that the first step that must be taken to solve the present general crisis is to recognize and restore the constitutional rights of the Bolivian people. It notes that the armed forces must put an end to their government adventures and resume their function in strict compliance with the laws so as to guarantee the stability of a state of rights [where the government] is freely elected by the will of the people.

The MNRI issues a call to intensify the resistance against the regime and to struggle for: the establishment of democratic opening process and the holding of general elections in 1982; the strict enforcement of the constitution; restoring union rights; restoring rights of free association; repealing all economic packages; and full exercise of freedom of the press.

MERCADO ON SILES ZUAZO; AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

PY172346 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1445 GMT 13 Nov 81

[Text] La Paz, 13 Nov (TELAM) -- Bolivian Interior Minister Col Romulo Mercado Garnica today stated that former President Hernan Siles Zuazo is the least qualified person to speak about human rights and charged him with trying to upset the people. Minister Mercado Garnica's remark was a direct reaction to a statement released last night by former President Siles Zuazo together with other leaders of his party, the National Revolutionary Movement of the Left (MNRI). In yesterday's communique, the MNRI called for elections next year, respect for the nation's constitution, and citizens rights and criticized the 3-year plan of the armed forces government.

The interior minister also indicated that the people realize that a party of the extreme left has no place in the country and added that what the citizenry wants is peace, tranquillity and a chance to better themselves.

In his statement to the press, Minister Mercado Garnica also rejected the report of Amnesty International concerning torture in Bolivia and the employment of repressive methods, and indicated that the head of Amnesty International branch in Puerto Rico, Paul Schiachter has allowed himself to be used by the international extreme left.

Denying the report of the chairman of Amnesty International, according to which there are 60 political prisoners in Bolivia, the minister said that this is a lie because both the Bolivian people and the country's press know well that there is not a single political prisoner in the country.

CHAVES DENIES ASPIRATIONS FOR 1984 ELECTIONS

PY190250 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 13 Nov 81 p 4

[Excerpts] Commenting yesterday in Rio de Janeiro -- where he traveled following the transfer of power -- on the experience of having been president of the republic for almost 2 months, Vice President Aureliano Chaves denied that he would like to take advantage of that experience as a test for a possible candidacy in the 1984 presidential elections. He recognized that he had "a great responsibility" in his hands, that he learned a lot, that he felt very acutely the difficulties of governing a country as complex as Brazil, and that he had arrived at the conclusion that "governing is a permanent challenge." For him, it is possible to govern a nation with the current political class. "Alone it is not easy..."

Still at Galeao Air Base, he spoke to the press which was surprised to meet him so at ease. He answered the questions with confidence and self-assurance, taking the most difficult ones with great ability. It was then that he was asked whether the last few days had not served him as a test for 1984.

"No. I am not thinking in those terms. My concern has always been to consider that any public post I am holding is the final objective of my public life. I feel that if I do my job well with the help of God, I will consider myself satisfied." A journalist asked him, then: "And if you really become the successor of President Figueiredo?" The answer was: The presidential succession is scheduled for 1984, and we still have to pass through 1982 to get to 1984. The composition of forces that will participate in the 1982 elections can change the whole structure of the political organization." Regarding the difficulties that are still awaiting President Figueiredo, Chaves was categorical: "Difficulties are natural in a country as large as Brazil which seeks to firmly walk toward the consolidation of republican institutions. It is clear that the difficulties of a nation as large as ours are always great. And development does not end problems, what changes is the nature of these problems...".

"What is the best manner for the PDS [Social Democratic Party] to overcome the current difficulties," a reporter asked him. Chaves thought a long while before answering the question: "It is very difficult. Whoever has magic formulas for solving political problems shows that he is not fulfilling his public role fully. I am a modest public man. I have gone through several stages of public life, and I know that political problems are complex. We must have patience and be capable of talking, exchanging ideas and seeking conciliatory solutions."

What lesson have you learned from this short apprenticeship? "The lesson that to govern a country well, one must be attentive to the characteristics of its people. The role of governing demands patience and humbleness. The world is becoming increasingly more complex. And in this world, even he who knows much, knows very little. The Brazilian people are lovers of freedom, are cordial and have a profound religious feeling and do not accept racial discrimination. I learned many things. After all, life is a constant search for more learning."

PP LEADER ON ELECTORAL ALLIANCES WITH OPPOSITION

PY190009 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 16 Nov 81 p 1

[Text] Senator Tancredo Neves, national president of the Popular Party [PP], stated yesterday in Itabirito, Minas Gerais State, that "if we do not succeed in changing the fate of the nation through the 1982 elections, we will be attending the extension for a few more years of the type of antidemocratic, antipopular and antihuman government which is now in effect."

Neves also stated that where the PP does not succeed in electing a governor alone, it will combine in alliance with other opposition parties. "We are also going to elect many candidates for state governor of other parties. Alone or voting for others, of the opposition, I believe we are going to elect governors in most Brazilian states," he stated.

In Araraquara, Sao Paulo State, Sao Paulo Mayor Reinaldo de Barros has confirmed that "Governor Paulo Maluf concurs with my candidacy. There is no doubt whatsoever about it." The Sao Paulo mayor has been in contact with Social Democratic Party [PDS] politicians at the convention to elect the PDS cadidate for the governorship of Sao Paulo next year.

GOVERNMENT OPENS DIALOGUE WITH OPPOSITION

PY192257 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 18 Nov 81 p 1

[Text] At the end of the first day of negotiations between the government and the opposition on electoral reforms, it was established yesterday that the prohibition of coalitions and the maintenance of intraparty subgroups [sublegendas] in the elections for the senate and mayoralities are fundamental points for the Social Democratic Party [PDS]. The Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party [PMDB] and the Popular Party [PP] do not want to give up the inelegibility law [returning political rights to those who have been stripped of them under Institutional Act No 5] and the proposal of Deputy Miro Teixeira which sets the next elections for 15 November 1982. The negotiations began in the morning when PMDB President Ulysses Guimaraes met with his PDS counterpart Jose Sarney. The negotiations went on until evening when Sarney visited PP President Tancredo Neves. According to Neves, there are profound differences, though there are also "common points" between the PDS and the PP.

LULA SENTENCED BY SAO PAULO MILITARY COURT

PY200258 Paris AFP in Spanish 0236 GMT 20 Nov 81

[Text] Sao Paulo, 19 Nov (AFP) -- Metalworkers' leader Luis Inacio da Silva, alias Lula, was sentenced to 3 years and 6 months imprisonment tonight by the Sao Paulo Military Court, accused of violating the national security law. Ten other metalworkers leaders were also given sentences ranging between 3 years and 3 years and 6 months, accused of having instigated a collective disobedience to the laws during a metalworkers' strike in April and May 1980, violating the national security law. The military court acquitted two other metalworkers' leaders. The 11 persons who have been sentenced will remain free until the Superior Military Court hears the appeal of their lawyers.

FOREIGN MINISTER ASSESSES CANCUN CONFERENCE

PY180321 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 15 Nov 81 p 3

[From the "Tendencies/Debates" column: "The Controversial Results of Cancun," by Brazilian Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro]

[Text] The results of the meeting which recently gathered 22 chiefs of state or their representatives in Cancun cannot be assessed by merely indicating the concrete results and practical measures. First of all, I must talk a little about the so-called North-South dialogue. The objectives of that dialogue between developed and developing nations are broad and varied. They range from the exchange of information on the international situation to the implementation of some measures aimed at positively favoring the Third World nations.

It deals with the unjust and inhuman nature of the international economic system without overlooking the creation of mechanisms such as the general system of preferences which guarantees lower tariffs for products coming from the developing countries and imported by the industrialized nations. The North-South dialogue has a conceptual aspect which is seen in the search for equality. It also has a practical aspect which is seen in the visible and concrete trade benefits. It stems from the premise that the North and the South together make up a system which must be improved for the benefit of the two. Judging by its characteristics -- a summit conference, a duration of only 2 days, an extremely broad and diversified agenda -- the Cancun Conference was above all a political one. This definition must be understood in this manner: No technical decisions were made, but measures of a more general nature were discussed and perhaps they will in the future lead to more specific decisions.

As an example, I could cite the question of promoting the so-called worldwide negotiations -- perhaps the central subject of the Cancun Conference. The developing nations are interested in the integrated, worldwide study of the main international economic issues and want the UN General Assembly to be the forum of discussions, because it is an eminently political and democratic organization where all member-countries of the United Nations are represented. Meanwhile, some developed countries seek, first of all, a compartmentalized [compartimentalizado] debate, in order to avoid considering changes of a structural or a more profound nature in the international economy; and second of all, they foresee negotiations only within the context of organizations where their technicopolitical influence is overwhelming, such as the special international organizations (IMF, GATT, World Bank).

Despite all opposition, the developed countries in principle and conditionally accepted the Cancun Conference, and more expressely the launching of the worldwide negotiations. Although it is not yet final, this must have been the positive point of the Cancun Conference, to the extent in which it promotes the effective launching of these negotiations. Despite the intransigence -- not yet overcome -- of the U.S. Government, the idea of the formation of an energy agency affiliate of the World Bank gained, in Cancun, new adherents among the developed countries. For Brazil, this represents favorable change: We are the greatest importer of petroleum in the developing world; we already have firm and economically feasible programs for alternate energy sources, and most important of all, we have mastered that technology. However, we lack the resources. The countries of the North have maintained, however, a marked strictness in studying financial issues. The proposals presented by the developing nations are especially aimed at increasing financing to the Third World, through the IMF, the World Bank and other organizations, and also at facilitating the conditions of loans. In this regard, the silence of the countries of the North have prevailed, strengthened by the promotion of the effectiveness of the free game of market forces. In contrast, the Third World defends ideas very close to Keynes' ideas, which are much more realistic within the context of an analysis. For the countries of the South, the omnipresent "invisible hand" of Adam Smith does not exist in the international context, and the imbalances must be overcome by policies characterized by direct and effective government action. The developing nations stressed that, at the same time, there is no antinomy but complementarity between the private and public flow of capital.

These undeniable differences between the developed and developing worlds cannot be taken as absolute data. There exists a broad belt of converging interests between the two groups. The serious problem of the Third World's foreign debt (of approximately $400 billion) could have, for example, very negative effects in the North. Meanwhile, making the economies of the South more dyanamic by increasing imports of goods and services from the North will facilitate the recovery of the inflationary and unemployment situation which prevails in the world of industrialized nations.

On making an assessment of wider scope, the most significant result of Cancun could have been, perhaps, that of alerting the countries of the North, especially the U.S. Government, to the fact that the abstract idea of the survival of Western values must necessarily pass through the concrete idea of changing some obsolete and unjust structures of the international economy. This change must aim at benefiting the Third World countries, at consolidating and improving the models of cooperation between the developed West and the developing countries. It is essential to strengthen the ties of confidence between the West and the Third World which, given the real situation in the contemporary world, demands greater flexibility in the process of economic and political negotiations with the developing world. This awakening of conscience, of which the Cancun Conference has been the main agent, can be one of the most important events in the international political situation of our times.

RESULTS OF DELFIM NETO TRIP TO EUROPE REPORTED

PY191643 Rio de Janeiro LATIN AMERICA DAILY POST in English 18 Nov 81 p 7

[Text] DAILY POST -- Planning Minister Delfim Netto arrived from a 17 day trip to Europe bringing financial agreements to the tune of $2.44 billion, in currency loans, exports and equipment credits and supply contracts of iron for Carajas.

Contracts of $90 million were signed in Portugal, $500 million in Belgium $1.561 billion in England, this one constituting the largest commercial agreement between this country and a Latin American country. In France, Delfim Netto signed agreements of $290 million. In Zurich, Switzerland, the minister explained the Brazilian economic situation to a meeting at the Swiss Union of Banks. Data from the Planning Ministry about this trip are the following: In Portugal, the $90 million agreements involved the purchase of two ships for transport of chemical products, the enlargement of the capacity of three Brazilian ships, in exchange for Brazilian steel goods and airplanes "Bandeirantes" made by EMBRAER (Brazilian Company of Aeronautics).

In Belgium, contracts were signed for supplying iron from Carajas to the EEC. This is the third contract signed by the state Company Vale do Rio Doce, to sell Carajas production after those signed with Japan and South Korea. In England, loans granted by a union of 9 banks, led by Lloyds Bank, are in the order of $879 million. The other $682 million represent financed purchases of Brazilian goods. The loans are distributed in the following way: $209 million for the production of fuel by the thermoelectric of Santa Cruz, operated by Furnas, and for the development of the coal mines in Prospera, in Santa Catarina; $219 million for paying SUNAMAN (Superintendence of Merchant Navy) for the production of 6 ships; $130 million for the financing of electronic equipment for ships built in Brazil and for the purchase of other ships, within a modernization program of the Brazilian Navy; $70 million for financing of equipment for the railway system of Recife, Pernambuco; $54 million for equipment for oil prospection by PETROBRAS.

The agreements signed in France were destined for equipment for oil prospection by PETROBRAS, worth $220 million. The other $80 million contract is signed by the government of Goias, to pay for the construction of the hydroelectric of Corumba.

GOVERNMENT CANCELS AIR AGREEMENT WITH U.S.

PY200054 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 19 Nov 81

[Text] According to a decree signed today, the agreement on air transport signed in 1946 between Brazil and the United States will no longer be in effect as of 5 May 1982. The decree explains that in a note dated 19 October sent by the Foreign Ministry to the U.S. Embassy in Brasilia, Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro reported that the Brazilian Government intends to cancel the agreement on air transport between the two countries because it is no longer appropriate. In the note forwarded to the U.S. Embassy Saraiva Guerreiro reconfirms the interest of the Brazilian Government that operations by air transport companies designated by the two contracting parties be carried according to current conditions.

COUNTRY TO SELL WEAPONS, OTHER ITEMS TO IRAQ

PY182315 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 17 Nov 81 p 15

[Text] Kuwait -- Official sources from the Brazilian delegation that is visiting the Middle East, headed by Finance Minister Ernane Galveas, have revealed that ENGESA -- specialized Engineers Inc. -- has closed a contract with the Iraqi Government for the supply of weapons worth $250 million. Details of the deal were not revealed, however, because government members avoid talking about the issue. Upon arriving yesterday in Kuwait, Galveas did not conceal his usual optimism when reporing on the 4 days of contacts held in Baghdad with the Iraq Government. According to him, negotiations for goods worth $2,252,500,000 can be concluded; involving, among other things, the supply of frozen meat, chickens and automobiles. The finance minister was received in a special audience by Iraqi President Saddan Husayn who termed his country's relations with Brazil as being "special."

I believe the results achieved in Iraq are highly positive, he said. This is not only because of the contacts held with the government, but also because of the fact that businessmen who have current business with Iraq have concluded many of the business deals. In addition, the visit has served to better identify the chances for future negotiations, the minister stated.

In fact, the $2,252,500,000 announced by Galveas must be considered only in the medium and long term. This is because $1.8 billion represents a contract for supplying chickens for a period of 5 years. The negotiation was closed by UNEF [National Union of Exporters of Chicken], and by 1982 they must already supply $210 million worth.

The other deals confirmed during the visit of the Brazilian delegation to Iraq -- a delegation made up of 55 businessmen -- are as follows:

The Cotia Cooperative Consortium of agricultural products and the Bordon Meat Packing Plant have sold $156 million worth of frozen meat as a result of the recent international bidding carried out by the Iraqi Government. Mr Geraldo Bordon has to return to Baghdad in December to negotiate the shipment of the product; The Bordon Packing Plant also sold "corned beef" [given in English] worth $10.5 million, to be delivered immediately; The Tupy Foundry of Santa Catarina State has agreed on the conditions for supplying $8 million worth of iron for construction; SIDERBRAS -- Brazilian Iron and Steel Corporation -- concluded understandings for the export of iron and steel products worth $10 million; In the area of paper and celulose, RIPASA of Sao Paulo, according to the finance minister, feels that the possibility of selling white printing paper is "quite favorable," this contract involves $9 million; The Brazilian Volkswagen is carrying out negotiations for supplying cars to Iraq. According to VW President Wolfgang Sauer, Volkswagen hopes to gain at least 10 percent of the total $450 million which the Iraqi Government offered at an international bidding for the supply of cars, taxis and special vehicles for physically disabled persons; The Bardella mechanical industries will present a project for the construction of a mini-iron and steel plant with a production capacity of 150,000 to 200,000 tons per year, in addition to reaching an agreement for supplying heavy iron bars, wire and other kinds of steel bars worth $200 million.

Galveas was received in a special audience by President Husayn, a meeting not included in the formal agenda of the trip. The meeting lasted 40 minutes, and according to the Finance Ministry spokesman, Galveas and Husayn discussed relations between the two countries.

REGIME ON COURSE, MINISTER RESIGNATIONS DENIED

PY140201 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 13 Nov 81

[Text] Minister of the National Planning Office Alvaro Donoso said categorically that the government will not change its goals because they are leading in a clear and reasonable way to an economic adjustment. He also disproved the rumors suggesting some ministers would resign, among them the finance minister. He made this statement at the talk he gave on the basic policies that support the strategy for the country's socioeconomic development. The talk was given to the 63 delegates of the 16 countries which belong to the Inter-American Defense Board who are visiting Chile.

GOVERNMENT REACTION TO 'SELECTIVE TERRORISM'

PY182144 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 18 Nov 81

[Report from La Moneda Palace by Graciela Contreras]

[Excerpts] Ministers have harshly condemned the new criminal attack which took place this morning in front of the residence of Santiago Sinclair, minister chief of the presidential staff, when three members of the investigative police were killed. The ministers made their statements at the end of a cabinet meeting presided over by the president.

The interior minister spoke first, saying that it was a brutal action by people given to violence who are trying by every means at their disposal to disturb order in the country. He said he was particularly grieved at the death of detectives who were watching over the security of all Chileans. Minister Fernandez concluded by saying that the government will maintain all the security measures contained in the law for the protection of the citizens. He also asserted that he will be unyielding in maintaining the campaign aimed at exterminating terrorism.

In turn, the minister secretary general of government explained to the newsmen accredited to La Moneda that this is another demonstration of how terrorism is constantly at work in this country and does not leave it in peace for a single moment. He said that it was very important for all citizens to become clearly aware that all this terrorist-extremist planning is carried out on an international level and the deeds then done in this country. He added: I tell you that these acts clearly show that, despite the successful actions of our security forces, many of which are not made known for obvious reasons of security, this terrorist and subversive planning continues in latent form. All citizens should therefore remain attentive and ready for action against this international scourge known as terrorism.

In turn, Minister Montero [minister under secretary of the interior] said that the fact that this type of attack takes place makes it clear to him that there are organized groups of people, but that this does not mean that national coexistence or public security are in danger. The actions are directed toward government officials and representatives or against people like those who died today while doing their duty. This is called selective terrorism. This is all from La Moneda Palace.

ARMY DENIES SENDING TROOPS TO CENTRAL AMERICA

PY180134 Paris AFP in Spanish 1849 GMT 17 Nov 81

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 17 Nov (AFP) -- Army sources today termed totally false the remarks made by Cuban President Fidel Castro to the effect that Chilean troops were being used by the United States in Central America. Asked by the semiofficial news agency ORBE, army sources rejected these reports and indicated that the subject had been discussed [as received] at the latest meeting of Latin American army commanders held in Washington at the beginning of November. Fidel Castro had said that the United States has been toying with the idea of using Latin American troops, especially those of Chile and Argentina, in Central America.

These remarks of the Cuban chief of state were published yesterday by the newspaper GRANMA, official mouthpiece of the Cuban Cummunist Party, according to news agency reports carried by news agencies.

ENVOY RETURNS FROM BEIJING, COMMENTS ON TOUR

PY190116 Santiago Chile TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 11 Nov 81 p 12

[Excerpts] Chile and the PRC have increased their cultural, commercial and tourist exchange considerably, to the point of becoming true examples of honesty for the world at large. Even though their government policies are completely different, they are two nations which agree with the idea of nonintervention in domestic affairs of other nations and honestly work for the well-being of their peoples. These remarks were made by former Chilean Ambassador to the PRC Sergio Huidobro Justiciano, who has returned to Chile after a 4 and 1/2 year tour. The diplomat will now devote himself to private activities. Today he will meet with Chilean President Augusto Pinochet Ugarte to report on his tour.

"I am very proud of having served at the Chilean Embassy in the PRC, a country where one-fourth of the world population lives. The PRC is a world power which is strategically located, it has a 9,300-km border with the Soviet Union and a team of very capable and highly qualified leaders. Such is the case of Deng Xiaoping, vice chairman of the Communist Party Central Committee and chairman of the military commission; Zhao Ziyang, vice chairman of the Central Committee and premier of the State Council; Hu Yaobang, president of the PRC Communist Party; and Huang Hua, vice premier of the State Council and foreign minister, said Ambassador Huidobro.

PRC DEPUTY TRADE MINISTER ARRIVES ON VISIT

PY180326 Santiago Chile Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 0031 GMT 18 Nov 81

[Text] Wang Runsheng, the PRC deputy minister of trade, and six officials of the PRC Trade Ministry and of the PRC Central Bank, arrived this afternoon in Chile to attend the fourth joint Chilean-PRC commission meeting which will be held in Santiago from 18 to 20 November. The Chilean delegation is presided over by Finance Under Secretary Enrique Seguel. The PRC deputy foreign trade minister will hold a meeting on Thursday with Chilean Foreign Minister Rene Rojas Galdames in the Red Room of the Foreign Ministry.

Joint Trade Concern

PY200030 Paris AFP in Spanish 1844 GMT 19 Nov 81

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 19 Nov (AFP) -- A joint Chilean-PRC commercial concern, the first of its kind in Latin America, is currently being established in Santiago, Chile, while negotiators from both countries are studying the creation of other similar concerns. Private businessmen will represent Chile in this joint concern, which will sell machinery produced by a PRC state corporation both domestically and abroad to other Latin American countries, 14 of which have diplomatic relations with Beijing.

During the second annual meeting of the Joint Chilean-PRC Trade Commission held in Santiago, Chile, last year, Chile offered its free zones and ports to receive Chinese merchandise shipped to third countries. The Chilean-PRC Government joint commission is currently meeting in Santiago, Chile, and PRC Foreign Trade Vice Minister Wang Runsheng has mentioned that the agenda includes problems of maritime transport, the supply of loans which is favorable to Chile and the creation of joint enterprises, the first of which, a commercial concern, is being established in Santiago, Chile.

Sources in the Chilean-PRC Government joint commission, which has been meeting since Thursday, indicated that in 1985 the PRC could add oil to its exports of canned goods, textiles, small machinery and household goods in order to reduce its deficit in bilateral trade.

Chile is the PRC's fourth largest trade partner in Latin America after Brazil, Mexico and Argentina. PRC-Chilean trade reached $134 million in 1980, thus experiencing a 368 percent increase since 1977. Three-fourths of this amount consists of Chile's sales to the PRC, especially copper, nitrate, fishmeal and cellulose. Wang today met with Chilean Foreign Minister Rene Rojas to discuss, he said, the possible results of the conference and the possible ways to further improve relations, "especially as far as the defense of peace and opposition to hegemonism, about which there is considerable agreement, is concerned." The PRC vice minister said: "We Chinese support all just causes since they are the ones that benefit the people, and we oppose foreign intervention because the domestic affairs of the nations must be resolved by their peoples."

Meeting With Rojas Galdames

PY191745 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 19 Nov 81

[Text] Wang Runsheng, PRC deputy minister for foreign trade, has visited Foreign Minister Rene Rojas Galdames. The meeting lasted for 30 minutes during which various aspects of bilateral relations were discussed. The talk took place in the Red Room of the Foreign Ministry and was attended by Ambassador Tang Haiguang.

Runsheng disclosed that he had discussed with Foreign Minister Rojas topics related to the meeting of the joint [Chilean-PRC] commission and the way in which bilateral relations can be implemented. He said: We have explored the ways of strengthening bilateral relations even more and, above all, discussed the defense of peace and resistance to hegemonism. He stated that his country supports the causes of just struggles which benefit people. He explained: We support all just causes and we oppose foreign intervention, because the internal questions of countries should be solved by their own people.

Runsheng is at the head of the PRC delegation which is participating in the fourth meeting of the joint commission being held in this capital.

DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER DEPARTS FOR CAIRO

PY181343 Santiago Chile Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 0015 GMT 18 Nov 81

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Fernando Arancibia Reyes traveled today to Egypt to preside over the national delegation which will participate in the sessions of the 3rd Chilean-Egyptian Joint Commission. Minister-Counsellor Ronald Geiger; the Director of Bilateral Economic Affairs Patricio Lopez-Huice, and Adviser Alberto Labbe traveled together with Deputy Foreign Minister Fernando Arancibia Reyes.

Before departing for Cairo, the deputy minister specified the objects of the commission and he pointed out that a study will be made on the bilateral relations. He added that the commission will make a general evaluation on the commercial, cultural and technological aspects and to that end, they contemplate the possibility of signing a basic agreement on scientific and technical cooperation in fulfillment of the agreements entered into during the 2nd meeting of the joint commission which was held in our country in 1980.

General Arancibia said that deliberations on the cultural aspect will take place on 23 November through 25 November in the city of Cairo. The national delegation will try to sign a special program, especially regarding the recognition of university degrees under already existing agreements and, in its application to tourism, certain measures will be sought for its effective development. He added that they also want to profit from the Egyptian experience with dry areas, for the northern part of Chile offers many possibilities. In the commercial aspect he assured that they wish to stimulate the commercial exchange between Egyptians and Chileans. The deputy foreign minister finally pointed out that he has requested a meeting with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak to whom he carries a personal letter from President Augusto Pinochet.

HURTADO DEFENDS GOVERNMENT ATTITUDE ON VIOLENCE

PA192200 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 19 Nov 81

[Text] President Oswaldo Hurtado Larrea presided over the festivities marking the anniversary of political independence in Loja, an important Ecuadorean area. He has been on official business there and received demonstrations of appreciation from the city's residents. Hurtado took advantage of the festivities to make a stark assessment of the country's current political and economic situation:

[Begin recording] When a government engages in dialogues -- as it should in a democratic society -- it is described as weak. Is it weak because no student died in the serious incidents in Guayaquil? (?Is it weak) because the demonstrators were not maltreated? Is it right to accuse a government of being weak because it acts prudently in handling public affairs and gives instructions that the most valuable asset in a society, the lives of human beings, must be protected? It is true that there were disturbances in Quito [words indistinct] state property was destroyed. The fact that this happened is regrettable and reprehensible. However, it should be admitted that for the first time in many years the lives of the Ecuadorean people were respected. [applause]

I would have expected the government to be given some credit. However, in this country the government is criticized one way or the other. Had students died, the government would have been called murderous. Since none died, it has been described as weak and lacking in authority. This government is neither weak nor lacking in authority. The souless people who destroyed public buildings which were built with money from the Ecuadorean people; the ones who made the Ecuadorean people lose millions of sucres -- as in the case of the buildings housing the Agriculture Ministry, the Pichincha provincial council and the Education Ministry and (?other) public buildings -- are being prosecuted in Quito.

We will apply the full weight of the law. I have asked the honorable governor to do so here in Loja in order to persecute those who had the audacity to attack an important news medium here. We will enforce the law. However, the limitations of a democracy must be understood. A democracy does not have the [words indistinct] of a dictatorship. Perhaps those who long for a dictatorship are the ones who are asking the government to apply a strong hand to then hold it accountable for the harshness and hit in other places to provoke repression. This democratic government in no way seeks or plans to engage in such repression. [end recording]

HURTADO POSTPONES VISITS TO COLOMBIA, VENEZUELA

PA170352 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 2330 GMT 16 Nov 81

[Text] President Osvaldo Hurtado telephoned Luis Herrera Campins and Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala, the presidents of Venezuela and Colombia, to inform them of his decision to postpone his planned visits to the two countries because he must attend personally to the political and economic problems affecting this country. President Hurtado reiterated that Ecuador has a special interest in holding these meetings, at the highest levels, with fraternal countries. Nevertheless, he said that even though these meetings are important to solve common problems, he would have to postpone them until another, unspecified, date.

JUSTICE MINISTER DISMISSES COUP RUMORS

PA181724 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 18 Nov 81

[Excerpts] All government authorities and political sectors have rejected rumors that circumstances were being created to destablize the democratic system here.

Government and Justice Minister Galo Garcia Feraud has given the press a detailed explanation of the relationship between events in the Ecuadorean context and the dangers democracy must always face, not only in our country but in all countries:

[Begin recording] To say that the democratic government raised prices is to not take into consideration all the causes, all the factors involved in the situations a national government must face. I would propose that if this were not a democratic government but were a de facto government of any style you would like, perhaps the cost of living would be higher, perhaps unemployment, despair and poverty would have risen to levels which currently do not exist under this democratic government.

[Question] Then you rule out all possibility that a de facto government, a military coup, may be attempted at this time?

[Answer] There could be attempts. I do not rule it out. But in any event, they will not be attempts which emerge from the military institution. I reiterate what today is reported in some of the media -- that the military as such rejects any possible attempt in this direction, and -- more than attempts -- rejects the rumors, since sometimes the national tranquillity can be attacked by throwing stones and sometimes by starting rumors. I think the time has come to reject those rumors; first, because all of the nation's institutions and the citizens, the Ecuadorean people, wish to live in a democratic climate. [end recording]

WORKERS FRONT POSTPONES PLANNED STRIKE

PA192018 Paris AFP in Spanish 1645 GMT 19 Nov 81

[Excerpt] Quito, 19 Nov (AFP) -- The United Workers Front [FUT], which groups the main labor confederations, has announced that the "national strike" they had planned for next week will be postponed. The strike announced by the FUT forced President Oswaldo Hurtado to cancel his planned visit to Venezuela and Colombia, to which he had been invited by these countries' presidents.

The unions that belong to the FUT are the Ecuadorean Confederation of Free Trade Union Organizations (CEOLS), the Ecuadorean Confederation of Classist Organizations (CEDOC) and the Confederation of Ecuadorean Workers (CTE).

STUDENTS TAKE OVER GUAYAQUIL UNIVERSITY BUILDINGS

PA192130 Paris AFP in Spanish 1706 GMT 19 Nov 81

[Excerpt] Guayaquil, Ecuador, 19 Nov (AFP) -- A group of armed students took over several buildings at the state-owned university in Guayaquil today, prompting the council (the top authority in Ecuador) to suspend classes indefinitely. A group of nine students whom the university authorities claim are responsible for the flareups of violence over the past few days were expelled from the university. When they heard of their expulsion the students attacked one of the buildings with firearms, forcing students that were there to take cover. No one was wounded, but several students sustained bruises.

After the shootout the students occupied strategic positions in several buildings at the university. University authorities sought assistance from the police, asking them to surround the campus to keep the students from getting more ammunition. However, the university authorities have not yet asked the police to evict the students from the buildings.

OFFICIALS ARRESTED, REPLACED IN COTTONSEED AFFAIR

PY182351 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 17 Nov 81 pp 8, 9

[Text] The Agriculture and Livestock Ministry has issued a resolution, signed this morning by Minister Hernando Bertoni, dismissing the main officials of the Cotton and Tobacco Control Office (OFAT), who are allegedly involved in the illegal sale of cottonseeds to Argentina; their replacements have been appointed.

Francisco Lopez Martinez has been appointed OFAT director replacing Jose Dario Radice. Lopez Martinez had been an auditor at the Agriculture and Livestock Ministry. Luis Torres Bogado has been replaced as director of the technical department by Cirilo Centurion, deputy director of the Caacupe Agricultural Institute. Americo Galeano, an economist employed by the Agriculture and Livestock Ministry, has been appointed OFAT accountant general replacing Luis Alberto Pereira.

At a surprise ceremony this morning, Minister Bertoni took the oaths of the newly appointed OFAT officials, according to the press department of the Agriculture and Livestock Ministry. Torres Bogado and Pereira were not present because they are still under arrest at the investigations department.

The Agriculture and Livestock Ministry has announced that these administrative steps end the participation of this ministry in the investigation of the affair, without this meaning that measures would not be taken over the next few days against lower level officials who may be involved.

It has been confirmed unofficially that most of the seeds sold to Argentina were prime genetic material of the Reba P-279 variety and not industrial seeds, as had been initially claimed. OFAT sold its surplus -- of approximately 3,500 tons -- and industrial enterprises had added untreated seeds, bringing the total to 6,000 tons. Sales of these seeds have been going on since July. It has been reported that more arrests are expected in connection with this affair.

FOREIGN MINISTER REVIEWS RIVER PLATE MEETING

PY171812 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 15 Nov 81 p 13

[Text] Foreign Minister Alberto Nogues returned to this capital yesterday afternoon, until last Friday he was taking part in the 12th conference of foreign ministers of the River Plate Basin countries, held in the Bolivian city of Santa Cruz de la Sierra. All the other members of the official Paraguayan delegation to the regional meeting also arrived together with the foreign minister in the special flight of the Military Air Transport (TAM) by a DC-3 aircraft.

The minister, visibly tired after the 4-hour trip from the Bolivian city, pointed out to reporters at the international airport that he had returned "having fulfilled a further stage in this desire for integrating what is called the River Plate Basin. The meeting was positive and 13 or 14 draft resolutions were drawn up, which is quite a number, and we hope they will be implemented and developed."

Mr Nogues emphasized the contacts held with his counterparts from Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia and Uruguay and, especially, the meeting with the present president of the Republic of Bolivia, Gen Celso Torrelio Villa.

On being questioned regarding the subject of the diverting of the Pilcomayo River, the foreign minister only said: "You have read the minister's speech and everything that has been said on the subject."

It is worth pointing out that during the discussions held last week in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivian President Celso Torrelio, as well as all the foreign ministers, revealed the existing consensus for maintaining the integration process within River Plate Basin system.

Mr Nogues proposed that this integration extend to cover the economic field. Moreover, many comments were made on his speech in one of the plenary meetings in which he severely criticized the Argentine attitude toward diverting the Pilcomayo River and in which he reminded those present that so far the case has not been solved effectively, following the proposals made by Paraguayan officials.

Under Secretary Rodney Elpidio Acevedo, questioned by reporters on the project of connecting the hydrographic basins of the Orinoco, Amazon and Plate Rivers said that "we did not draw up a draft resolution on this subject, but there was a declaration of the ministers in the final minutes in the sense of adopting the initiative with interest and that this subject should continue to be dealt with among the River Plate Basin countries." Experts point out that this project will progress very slowly because it is extremely complex and will affect about nine countries. Reports from Santa Cruz specify that the project promoted by Peru (which was represented by an observer) and Bolivia was received with indifference by the foreign ministers of Paraguay, Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay.

Regarding the financial fund for the development of the River Plate Basin (FONPLATA), some members of the national delegation pointed out that this organization will move its main office. At present its offices are located in the city of Sucre, but for operational reasons they will be moved to Santa Cruz de la Sierra or to Cochabamba.

LIBERAL PARTY LEADER MEETS WITH STROESSNER

PY182202 Asuncion LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 18 Nov 81 p 2

[Excerpt] Fulvio Hugo Celauro, leader of the Liberal Party, met with President Alfredo Stroessner yesterday in a special audience granted him by the chief of state. During the meeting Celauro was accompanied by Camilo Melot Rodas of the Liberal Party leadership.

According to the president of the Liberal Party, during the meeting with the chief of state at the Lopez Palace they discussed various subjects related to the current political situation of the country and the organization of the Liberal Party.

According to Celauro, from the specific subjects discussed yesterday at Government House the following can be mentioned: "The raison d'etre of the Liberal Party and its contribution at a national and international level to the country's development and the consolidation of democracy," the "national political moment," the "methodology used by the Liberal Party," and the "freedom of action for its organization."

Answering a question posed by this daily on the meeting held with General Stroessner, Celauro stated that "it developed in the cordial atmosphere which characterizes the president's pleasant courtesy. The president received a memorandum in which the Liberal Party activities and position are noted in order not to waste his precious time. However, the meeting developed into a pleasant dialogue during which the president once again demonstrated his familiarity with the national political parties and his profound knowledge of their leaders. We left the meeting feeling comforted."

Celauro also pointed out that "we left the meeting feeling very comforted by the chief of state's understanding and his clear point of view on the subject."

JOINT PERU-ARGENTINA COMMUNIQUE ISSUED

PY190247 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2000 GMT 18 Nov 81

[By Diego E. Gonzalez]

[Text] Lima, 18 Nov (TELAM) -- Argentine Foreign Minister Oscar Camilion today ended his official visit to Peru and signed a joint declaration with his Peruvian counterpart Javier Arias Stella which outlined a broad range of issues on which total agreement was reached. This declaration was signed this morning at the Peruvian Foreign Ministry.

The two foreign ministers reiterated their support for the principles set forth in the charters of the United Nations and the Organization of American States, and pointed out that total respect for these principles will allow the fulfillment of objectives such as the strengthening of international peace and security and the development of peaceful cooperation among nations.

Camilion and Arias Stella expressed their concern over the serious problems which the international community must face because of open violations of the principles of self-determination, sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity.

The two ministers also discussed the lack of progress regarding disarmament and arms control and the need to strengthen the democratic system of government.

Regarding the Nonaligned Movement, they voiced the need to guarantee an effective protection for the basic principles of this movement and in connection with worldwide economic cooperation they acknowledged that the two countries have increased their actions and expanded the field of their agreements to help achieve a new, more just and equitable international economic order.

The two foreign ministers reiterated their support for the rights stemming from the jurisdiction and sovereignty of the states over their territorial sea, its floor and subsoil up to 200 miles off the coast and over the continental shelf beyond this limit, without detriment to the freedom of navigation and overflight.

They reiterated their deep concern over unilateral laws on the exploitation of the maritime floor outside national jurisdictions, which violate the principle of humanity's common assets.

The two ministers reaffirmed their firm support for the Latin American Economic System (LAES) and stated that the 1980 Montevideo Treaty provides the appropriate framework for attaining greater regional complementation.

They agreed that Central America's stability must not be disrupted by interference of any kind or from any source, whether direct or indirect, and that the deep-rooted nature of the political, economic and social crisis affecting certain countries requires broad and fair solutions based on self-determination and concern for the interests of the peoples of these countries.

They also expressed satisfaction over the results of the first regular technical meeting on the interconnection of the basins of the Orinoco, Amazon and Plate Rivers, held to study the status, the problems of and the solutions for South American physical integration.

The ministers committed their efforts to promoting the second meeting of foreign ministers of Andean Pact countries with their Argentine counterpart in 1982 in order to step up and expand economic, commercial, financial, scientific and cultural relations between Argentina and the Andean group.

With regard to bilateral matters and in view of Argentina's proposal to cooperate in the fields of agriculture, livestock and agroindustry, the Peruvian foreign minister delivered a report on a project for livestock development in the Pichis-Pachitea valleys. This report will be studied by Argentina.

They agreed that Argentine-Peruvian bilateral trade offers many possibilities for further expansion and acknowledged significant progress achieved in certain specific field of cooperation among which the development of nuclear energy for exclusively peaceful purposes has exceptional significance.

The two ministers expressed their satisfaction over the positive results of the second meeting of the joint group for transport affairs of the permanent Peruvian-Bolivian [as received] Joint Coordinating Commission regarding the interconnection between the Peruvian ports of Matarani and Ilo with that of Buenos Aires, a project to which Peru and Argentina assign top priority.

Foreign Minister Arias Stella reiterated his government's firm support for Argentina's sovereign rights over the Malvinas Islands, stressing the need for a prompt and definite return of this territory to its legitimate owner. This gesture was acknowledged by Argentina.

NEW 'INDEPENDENT' DAILY SCORED BY EXPRESO

PY181813 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 4 Nov 81 p 14

[Editorial: "Another Daily"]

[Text] Effective yesterday a new daily is being published in Lima. It is called EL PAIS and it styles itself as independent. A significant proportion of its directors and editors are personages who supported the brutal attempt of the military dictatorship to silence press freedom in Peru.

For this reason EL PAIS is not a daily which can be given a sincere and cordial welcome. Those who supported and, in some cases, directed the seizure of free dailies and applauded the abuses committed by the dictatorship against press freedom have no moral right to address the public opinion or to claim any independence whatsoever. They do have the right to do it, but nothing else -- the right granted to them by the democratic system, of which they are enemies.

Civic dignity is required in the first place in order to address public opinion. They have lost this completely, and the country has neither forgotten it nor pardoned them for it. Nothing good for the civic health of the country can be expected from those who never believed in the democratic regime, and do not do so now.

It is in fact pleasing that they now try the path to which they could have also resorted during the dictatorship: that of opening a new daily and not that of contributing toward the destruction of those already in existence, which was the easy path they then chose to follow.

BRIEFS

NEW PUBLICATION -- The new daily LA REPUBLICA issued its first edition yesterday. The daily is managed by (Guillermo Sonday). [Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Nov 81 PY]

EL SALVADOR

FMLN REPORTS RECENT ACTIONS ON CENTRAL FRONT

PA191538 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 19 Nov 81

[FMLN war report from the Anastasio Aquino Paracentral Front, San Vicente Department]

[Text] 11 November -- A high-tension tower was sabotaged at Ramirez Hill, 3 km west of San Vicente.

16 November -- At 0930 an enemy patrol was ambushed in (Las Pampas) canton near Chinchontepec Volcano, San Vicente. A mine was detonated and heavy rifle fire ensued, resulting in 15 casualties to the enemy: 10 dead and 5 wounded.

17 November -- At 1040 an annihilating ambush was carried out against the forces of the Zacatecoluca garrison on the fifth [word indistinct], near Chinchontepec Volcano. The enemy suffered seven casualties: four troops and three paramilitary men. In addition we seized 4 G-3 rifles, 860 7.62-mm rounds, 5 G-3 rifle grenades and other military supplies. We suffered two heroic casualties.

United to fight until final victory! Revolution or death, we will win!

FMLN DENIES LOSS OF 150 IN COMBAT ACTIONS

PA191302 Paris AFP in Spanish 0109 GMT 18 Nov 81

[Text] San Jose, 17 Nov (AFP) -- The FMLN has reported that it inflicted 110 casualties on the army during the last few days and denied that 150 of its men had fallen in combat, as was claimed by an official source in El Salvador.

In a war bulletin published today by AGENCIA INDEPENDIENTE DE PRENSA (AIP), which supports the opposition in that country, the FMLN said that 70 of these casualties were caused in Cabanas Department in northwest El Salvador, where the army has been carrying out a clean-up operation over the last 7 days.

The guerrilla group also reported "heavy fighting" in the border area of Penas Blancas, 70 km northeast of San Salvador.

The report said that "the Honduran Army established a cordon at the border at the same time that the Salvadoran troops tried to penetrate the rebel strongholds."

Among the various actions carried out by the guerrilla organizations over the last few days, it was reported that FMLN squads ambushed a military patrol in La Tiendona Canton, in the San Sebastian area, "killing 4 and wounding an undeterminted number."

The rebels also attacked a military vehicle in the San Vicente area, causing 10 casualties.

The FMLN also said that its men fought a convoy transporting military personnel dressed in civilian clothes on the Pan-American Highway, "inflicting five casualties on the government forces," and that an army patrol in the San Jose Canton lost 12 of its men in another armed clash.

TRADE UNION GROUP STATES POSITION ON ELECTIONS

PA191202 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 16 Nov 81 p 19

[Advertisement by the Revolutionary Trade Union Federation]

[Excerpts] The Revolutionary Trade Union Federation (FSR) states the following to the working class and the general public:

Considerations

The military-Christian Democratic junta, finding itself unable to bring the crisis that the country is experiencing under control and to provide the necessary solutions, has insistently urged the people to prepare themselves to participate in elections in a few months. According to the junta's pledges and promises, these elections will be free and will solve the crisis that lies like a crushing weight on the great dispossessed masses.

Today the FSR, as the representative and defender of the workers' interests, wonders: "Do the people have confidence in the elections? Is it possible for them to have it? Do the necessary conditions and guarantees exist for valid elections to take place? If not, what other objectives is the junta seeking in launching this mass propaganda to promote the elections? Can elections be the true solution to the deep-seated crisis that the country is experiencing?"

A Lengthy, Harsh Experience

The promise of valid elections was not invented by the military-Christian Democratic junta. The FSR clearly remembers that every one of the previous governments offered "free elections" in their time, promising to respect the people's will. However, the FSR remembers with equal clarity that, in practice, each electoral spectacle was invariably a great farce, a shameful hoax played by the dominant classes on the Salvadoran people. Examples of this were the last two presidential elections of 1972 and 1977.

After constant deceptions and immeasurable abuses, the people have realized that in this country the popular will is neither heeded nor respected and, therefore, the promise of valid elections cannot be fulfilled. The people have lost all confidence in these promises. They cannot believe that elections at this time will be the solution to their problems.

The Present Crisis

The present crisis is based on this experience. El Salvador is experiencing the most profound crisis in its history. Its causes are born of the very structure of the exploitative and dependent economic system. So far, successive governments have tried to disguise the critical status of this defective structure with illusory solutions. However, the deterioration is such that today the crisis is irreversible.

The Junta's Actions

Amidst the avalanche of this crisis, the junta has demonstrated by its deeds that it has neither the intention nor the ability to heed the people's voice, and certainly not to effectively respect the people's will in these decisive moments in our history. In comparison with valueless promises and words, what are its deeds?

Civil freedoms and the most basic human rights are trampled upon. Over 500 political prisoners remain in jail without ever having had their legal status defined. The number of "missing" persons from among the civilian population increases daily. Hundreds of bodies with signs of torture continue to appear in the streets and highways.

All of these crimes remain unpunished. They are neither investigated nor are the prepetrators punished. Neither the office of the attorney general nor the honorable Supreme Court of Justice of El Salvador show any signs of reacting to these criminal excesses.

The junta maintains a close alliance with an imperialist foreign government whose main officials have declared publicly that they will not permit El Salvador to have a government that does not meet their approval, as if it were up to them to determine the Salvadoran people's destiny.

An alliance with such a government is a public betrayal of the Salvadoran people and of their right to and desire for self-determination.

These are some of the significant facts about the junta.

Conclusions

Today, the junta announces elections, which it claims will be free, and promises that they will take place. In view of the facts mentioned here, we must justifiably ask ourselves: Could those who fail to heed or respect the urgent appeals of the Salvadoran people and fail to guarantee their basic freedoms today guarantee the realization of a just electoral process and unconditional respect for its results tomorrow? It would be difficult to believe and expect this to be the case. There is no doubt that at present the proper conditions for a genuine consultation to determine the people's will by means of elections do not exist.

The great popular masses understand this analysis and do not support these new elections. The people have made progress and are currently moving toward the attainment of solid solutions, the ones that are truly needed for them to emerge from the present crisis.

[Signed] Juan Jose Martinez Argueta, FSR
San Salvador, 14 November 1981

GUATEMALA

ARMY CONSIDERS GUERRILLA OFFENSIVE BLOCKED

PA191748 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 1230 GMT 19 Nov 81

[Text] Col Jaime Rabanales, army chief of public relations, said yesterday that it is clear that the guerrillas' so-called final offensive to which Jesuit priest Luis Eduardo Pellecer referred has been broken up. He said this was the result of the setbacks suffered at the hands of the security forces, the destruction of many of their hideouts and the voluntary surrender of Father Pellecer himself and of social worker Emeterio Toc Medrano.

Because this so-called final offensive has been broken up, Colonel Rabanales said, the civilian population is being attacked. In view of the fact they are not able to confront the security forces, Colonel Rabanales said, the subversives are now using the only path they have left, and which is also the most dangerous: terror. Through use of terrorism, the military spokesman said, since they have been unable to convince anyone, the subversives are trying to overcome the civilian population's decision to block the establishment of a regime that is alien to our own nationality.

HONDURAS

CLASH SAID WITH SALVADORAN GUERRILLAS, NOT ARMY

PA191625 Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish 1145 GMT 19 Nov 81

[Excerpt] Col Oscar Mejia Peralta, commander of the 12th Infantry Battalion, has confirmed the recent deaths of two members of the national army, but he emphasized that the persons responsible were not Salvadoran troops but guerrillas from that nation who had infiltrated refugee groups.

The senior officer reported that a 12th Battalion patrol was attacked last weekend by a guerrilla group in the border area of Guarita, in Lempira Department. The extremists used machineguns and pistols. The dead have been identified as Cpl (Fidel Cortes Portillo) and Pvt (Isabel Marcos Claros).

NICARAGUA

RAMIREZ QUESTIONED ON AREA'S FINANCIAL PROBLEMS

PA192137 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 19 Nov 81

[Text] Returning from a 24-hour trip to Costa Rica, government junta member Dr Sergio Ramirez Mercado made the following statement to the press:

[Begin recording] President Carazo is concerned over tensions in the area. He shares with us the view that there should be a political solution to the Salvadoran situation in order to bring stability to the rest of the Central American area.

[Question] [Words indistinct] solvency problem in Central America, more specifically between Costa Rica and Nicaragua?

[Answer] There is the belief that the Central American countries should make a joint statement before the international financial community and before certain countries with resources which might find financing formulas to compensate for the decline in the prices and volumes of our exports. This might help finance the deficit caused by the immoderate rise in oil costs so our countries could receive liquid assets to finance needed imports, that is, in order to close the trade balance or balance of payments gap.

This problem is common to all Central American countries, and in our talks with President Carazo yesterday we saw that our two countries' need for liquid foreign exchange is more or less similar. There are, therefore, sufficient reasons to make us believe that we might present a joint stand which might also be shared by the other countries in the area. This, however, must be a general, regional effort in which all Central American countries would participate if possible. [end recording]

ORTEGA ON HONDURAN INCIDENTS, EMBASSY FIRE

PA191802 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 19 Nov 81

[Text] Government junta coordinator Commander Daniel Ortega spoke to local and international newsmen about the most recent attacks from Honduras and about the intentional burning of a building owned by the people in Washington:

[Begin recording] [Ortega] I am worried about the way in which certain officers in command at the border area are handling this problem. Yesterday, when [Honduran] Lt Col Dali Castillo got in touch with the Sandinist Peoples Army commanders, he dismissed the importance of this incident and viewed it in a way that we do not consider responsible.

[Question] (?So) the agreed-on ministers defense meeting has not yet been held?

[Answer] The Honduran authorities have said on different occasions that their high commands are engaged in other activities. We insist, however, that this meeting is both necessary and important. We are really insisting on the need for this proposed meeting of the Honduran army's high commands and the security bodies of both Honduras and Nicaragua in order to find a solution to this problem.

[Question] (?Regarding the Nicaraguan Embassy) in Washington, has a specific protest note been sent? So far there has only been a Foreign Ministry declaration denouncing the incident.

[Answer] Yes. We will officially demand more protection and security from the U.S. authorities, since a Nicaraguan Embassy, property of the Nicaraguan people, was damaged in Washington. It is not, as the U.S. press has sought to pretend -- or as Managua's LA PRENSA and Radio Corporacion have reported, echoing the U.S. media -- that some property owned by Sevilla Sacasa was burned. This could confuse our people, making them believe that Sevilla Sacasa's property in the United States is being burned.

This is not really his property, but that of the Nicaraguan people. Sevilla Sacasa upsurped this property, but the people recovered it on 19 July. The worrisome aspect is that this should be happening in the United States, where a climate against our country has been created, while our country provides all guarantees, all protection and all security to U.S. representatives here. [end recording]

Reporting Ortega's comment on the embassy fire in Washington, Managua Internation Service in Spanish at 0030 GMT on 19 November adds:

["The junta coordinator added that although several anonymous phone calls had warned that the Nicaraguan Embassy in Washington would be attacked. The U.S. authorities did not take the necessary measures. One must really wonder how the U.S. Government would react if any of its official properties on Nicaraguan territory were made the object of a similar criminal action, Commander Ortega said in conclusion."]

ORTEGA, RAMIREZ APPEAR ON 'FACE THE PEOPLE'

PA180405 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0030 GMT 17 Nov 81

["Face the People" program, with Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra and Dr Sergio Ramirez Mercado, members of the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction; held 13 November at the Perla Theater in Matagalpa -- recorded]

[Excerpts] Companeros of Matagalpa: Before coming here, approximately 1 and 1/2 hours ago, we were looking into several problems over there at the government junta, among them the 1982 budget, (?discussing) the demand made by the various organizations of the revolutionary government and the various ministries. Unfortunately, everything cannot be satisfied, even though many times these demands are elemental, necessary and fundamental. They cannot be met because the junta has great (?economic problems) and the budget must be in line with this economic reality of our country.

Another matter we were looking into is the one having to do with the withdrawal of Companero Arturo Cruz from the Nicaraguan Embassy of the United States. By this time, Companero Arturo Cruz must have given a news conference along with our foreign minister, Father Miguel d'Escoto, in which he was going to explain his withdrawal, which is not a resignation -- as an attempt to present it as such has been made by some organizations, by some of the media or interested (?political) groups -- but has to do with an agreement which he had arrived at with the revolutionary government when he assumed that responsibility for a predetermined period. This period has almost expired and now he will introduce the new ambassador we are going to propse to the U.S. Government. Thus, Companero Arturo Cruz is concluding his duties in the embassy in Washington.

We must point out that Companero Arturo Cruz made a great contribution to the struggle of the Nicaraguan people. He became involved first in the Group of 12; then, after the revolutionary triumph, he assumed responsibility for the Central Bank; later he became a member of our government junta; and now, most recently, he has been ambassador in Washington. This has been Companero Arturo Cruz' contribution to the struggle of our people. We wish to recognize it publicly today.

Also, Companero Arturo Cruz will bring us up to date regarding the most recent contacts he has had in the United States with the U.S. Government, which have to do, on the one hand, with the grave threats continuously being launched against our revolution from the United States and Nicaragua.

We believe we should continue to try to find that (?formula) which will make the United States truly understand the reality of the Nicaraguan revolution and that this may begin, within the proper framework of respect, new relations with the United States. [as heard]

The other issue we were discussing, which is of so much concern to us, is the clash that occurred in Guasaule in which during a 1-hour period, troops of the Honduran Army fired on our soldiers of the Sandinist People's Army at that border post. We are sure that this is in line with the true interest -- which has not been said by us, but has been expressed by U.S. officials -- of seeking a way to destabilize our country, a way of attacking our country. The true interest which exists on the part of sectors in Central America -- rightist sectors, representatives of armies, like Colonel Garcia of El Salvador -- which have been seeking a way of fostering, along with Guatemalan rightist sectors, the formation of what is known as the northern triangle. That is, they want to unite the Armies of El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras; to launch them on a war-like military adventure against Nicaragua, thinking that with this, an end is going to be put to the revolution, the revolutionary struggle in El Salvador and in Guatemala.

In a responsible way, the Honduran Government -- its official [word indistinct], the chief of the general staff and its minister of defense -- have stated that they are against forming a northern triangle. But pressures are enormous because, for a land (?mobilization), for example, of these three armies, Guaremala and El Salvador must at least have the consent of Honduras to pass through their [word indistinct]. There are great pressures on the Honduran Army. We know that Somozist counterrevolutionaries are in their camps in the border area; they have been mobilizing continuously during the past few weeks. We have received reports that (?they) have been drawing close to the border and this has to do with the real danger of aggression and threat to Nicaragua.

We do not doubt that this fire that was maintained for 1 hour -- the Honduran soldiers against the positions of our army on Thursday -- was provoked by groups of Somozist counterrevolutionaries who fired on the Honduran Army posts and, since the distance is very short, right on the border line, the Hondurans then immediately fired on our forces, thinking that the firing began on our side.

Also, we do not doubt that there are some officers of the Honduran Army who would like to foster this war with Nicaragua and who agree, sympathize, with the idea of Colonel Garcia and with the Guatemalans.

Therefore, the situation is quite dangerous since the Honduran Army is mobilizing some troops in the border area, and is mobilizing these former Somozist guards.

By coincidence, 2 days ago we sent the president of Honduras, Gen Policarpo Paz, a letter in which we brought forth all these problems. We have not released this letter to the public because we wanted Gen Policarpo Paz to receive it first, but we are thinking of making it public within the next few days.

The situation is fairly difficult and that is why we cannot lower our guard. We must continue to strengthen the defense of our revolution.

I am going to bring you up to date about the most recent problems we are facing in this country. We are going to listen to whatever questions you may have and on this occasion, take to the heroic people of Matagalpa, especially to the companeros who are present here who are organized and the organized companeros who would have liked to be here but were unable to be present, the greetings of the FSLN leadership and the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction. [applause]

[Question by unidentified speaker] We coffeegrowers are facing difficult times. I refer to the assaults and robberies which are taking place on the road to (Penas) and adjoining roads. A short time ago 120,000 cordobas were stolen from a companero by the counterrevolutionary bands and common criminals. The money was to be used to pay the salaries of peasants. They went without payment for 15 days. Their employer owes money to the development bank.

We want to tell our commander that we need a mobile unit, a rural police force, to patrol thoroughfares and side roads in order to keep a better watch on farms. This last Saturday several farmowners and farmers did not want to carry any payroll money around because they were afraid of robberies and assaults.

[?Ortega] Regarding the first question posed by the companero, we agree with the Interior Ministry that at this moment, not only in our region but nationally, there is a crime wave involving counterrevolutionary elements who are trying to destabilize and discredit our armed forces.

Nevertheless, we have tried to respond. Yesterday, for instance, we organized an operation in the (Aribe) region, of (Aribe) municipality and nearby areas, and managed to seize over 40 weapons which were in the hands of people there. This situation leads one to think that there are people in the area who have neither reported, nor legalized their ownership of weapons. This makes crime easier.

Moreover, the proliferation of these gangs is occurring in places where the Sandinist People's Militias have not been organized, where it is more difficult to exert revolutionary vigilance, where elements whom we can describe as counterrevolutionaries are engaged in political activities against our revolution. [applause]

[?Ortega] There is a question that we failed to answer. It concerns the right to strike. A companero from the Agricultural Workers Association noted that the supporters of Eli Altamirano and members of the Labor Action and Unity Federation [CAUS] have been defending the right to strike. It is important to state clearly that the right to strike was a necessary instrument during the time of the Somozist dictatorship. Before 19 July [1979], the right to strike was a necessary weapon, just as the ideological struggle was necessary and just as the armed struggle was the main weapon used by our people to face up to the Somoza dictatorship.

In any case, during Somoza's time, strikes were not supposed to have been used only to obtain minor wage increases. Strikes were to be used to defeat the Somozist dictatorship and to give power to the workers.

However, what happened during the Somozist period? The members of the Altamirano group were opposed to the armed struggle. They were enemies of armed struggle and they condemned us Sandinists for employing an armed struggle. They had practically made the strike their primary weapon of struggle, not to defeat the Somozist dictatorship, but to struggle for certain demands. Therefore, they were misleading the working class. Instead of leading the working class and guiding the workers in a struggle to turn power over to the workers after the defeat of the Somozist dictatorship and the National Guard, they maintained a permanent struggle in which they wrested crumbs from the patrons, the Somozists and the capitalists.

They wrested crumbs from the capitalists because, after a strike there would perhaps be a wage increase, but there would immediately be an increase in prices. Thus they were getting absolutely nowhere.

Under those conditions, strikes were necessary. As I explained, strikes were necessary to serve as another instrument of the struggle that would lead to the overthrow of the Somoza dictatorship.

From 19 July onward, there has been no justification for strikes in this country, because relations have changed totally. Although there are private companies in this country that are guaranteed by the revolution, those private companies cannot exploit the workers as they did during the Somoza dictatorship.

Therefore, when there is a problem in a company, resorting to strikes is simply acting against the people's power and against the power of the workers, that power that the workers and peasants, with the FSLN at their head, won on 19 July 1979.

To promote a strike, whether in a public or private company, is to attack the revolutionary power. There are other paths to be used now. If there are defects, irregularities and injustices, there are other corrective means. There is the organized people's power. There are labor unions. There are mass organizations. There are means. If those means fail, one must be critical of them in order to correct the defects. We should not be turning to other methods.

How could one think of turning to armed struggle now to solve the problems of the revolution? Therefore, since 19 July 1979, there has been no justification for strikes.

I have been asked why those who disagree with the revolutionary process have been happy to see the workers go on strike at a company, even if it is a private company. They are happy because they hope that this will weaken the power of the revolution. That is also why the revolutionary courts have taken action against those people -- the supporters of Altamirano and of CAUS.

We would not be acting in a manner that is consistent with our real experience if we failed to have goals to be attained with the investment of monetary resources that are in line with our available resources. We have to make great efforts to move forward. We must make efforts to strengthen our economy, to reactivate it. We are not going to reactivate our economy in 1 or 2 years. Many years will go by before we reactivate our economy, before we can think about an economic takeoff. The situation is very difficult, very difficult.

Therefore, we need to have our people, the people of Matagalpa, become even more aware of the state of economic and social emergency. To this we must add that the threats of intervention and aggression are not mere words. It must be said that we consider the statements published in BARRICADA today, attributed to representatives of different parties -- the Social Christian Party; Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, codirector of LA PRENSA; and the director of Radio Corporacion, who have said that they are against any intervention -- to be a positive factor. We think that it is a positive sign that they can see the possibilities of intervention as we do. This demonstrates the real situation.

In addition, there are the criminal gangs that are active. There are confrontations every so often. In general, there are reports of the confrontations when there are casualties on either side. This morning, thanks to the actions of the Interior Ministry, the Sandinist People's Army and, above all, to the militias in the area, the gang that has been operating near Siuna and that killed the two Cuban teachers and the companero peasants in the area has finally been eliminated. Today, four of its members were killed. [applause and indistinct chants]

As I was saying, four members of the gang were killed. Three of them had been killed earlier. Therefore, this gang that killed the teachers has been practically wiped out.

However, the danger continues to exist and we must -- without fright or alarm and with a sense of responsibility -- take measures to correct this state of economic and social emergency and to defend the nation's integrity.

We are certain that the people of Matagalpa will continue to respond historically with the same spirit bequeathed to us all by our brother from Matagalpa, our commander in chief, Carlos Fonseca Amador. [applause]

JOINT COMMUNIQUE WITH HUNGARY ISSUED 15 NOV

For the joint communique issued on the Hungarian foreign minister's visit to Nicaragua, see page F 6-7 of the Hungary section of the 19 November Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT.

BRIEFS

SWEDISH MINING AGREEMENT -- Nicaraguan Mines Minister Alvaro Guzman and (S.G.U. Guinarvibrandt), director of the Swedish geological service institute, today signed an agreement for technological development in the mining field. The agreement includes $8 million for mining projects in Nicaragua and for training personnel working in the mines. [Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0400 GMT 18 Nov 81 PA]